

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-7 (canceled)

Claim ¹~~8~~ (currently amended): A method of screening for a substance as claimed in claim ~~7~~ that inhibits or induces interaction between a transcription coupling factor and a Smad molecule comprising the following steps:

- a. preparing a culture system consisting of introducing a transcription coupling factor expression vector and a Smad molecule expression vector into cultured cells and culturing said cells;
- b. adding a substance to be tested to said culture system; and
- c. measuring inhibition activity or induction activity of said substance by detecting the binding of said transcription coupling factor to said Smad molecule,
wherein said transcription coupling factor is CBP and/or p300.

Claims 9-13 (canceled)

Claim ²~~14~~ (currently amended): A method of screening for a substance as claimed in claim ~~7~~ ¹~~8~~, wherein said Smad molecule is Smad3.

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim ³~~16~~ (currently amended) A method of screening for a substance ~~as claimed in claim~~
~~15~~ that inhibits or induces interaction between a transcription coupling factor and a Smad
molecule comprising: physically contacting said transcription coupling factor with said
Smad molecule in the presence or absence of a substance to be tested; detecting the
binding of said transcription coupling factor to said Smad molecule; and measuring
inhibition activity or induction activity of said substance, wherein said transcription
coupling factor is CBP and/or p300.

Claim ⁴~~17~~ (currently amended) A method of screening for a substance as claimed in claim
³~~15~~ ~~16~~, wherein said Smad molecule is Smad3.